

Justice and Sanity.

There has been a great deal said about the unwritten law, and it is held by many thinking people to justify murder which is indefensible. True, life may be taken at times in self-protection without violating divine or human law, but for a deliberate homicide there is no excuse whatever. It is, of course, exasperating almost beyond endurance to have the home despoiled by a conscienceless monster who bears the guise of man, but courts should deal with him in a civilized community and give him his deserved punishment. When a man takes the law into his own hands and puts an end, with malice aforethought, to one of his fellow beings, he is simply a barbarian, no matter what cause he has for his bloody deed. The young man who slew the supposed wronger of his sister in this city, says the Boston Budget, received a just sentence, though there is sorrow that he should have thrown away his young manhood to become a perpetual prisoner; but his punishment, though severe, was deserved, and it will act as a deterrent on other impulsive young men of fiery southern blood, who might be tempted to follow in his unfortunate footsteps. The case of Judge Loving of Virginia, who was acquitted by a jury of the crime of murder partially, apparently, on the ground of sudden insanity, and partly, no doubt, through a reverence or regard for the unwritten law, is one in which it is widely believed strict justice was not meted out. In all probability, the young man who was shot to death by an irate father did not commit the deed of which he was at first suspected, but even if he did, his slayer, it seems to us, should have paid some penalty for his offence, and not have gone entirely unwhipped of justice. Then we have the story of a mother and son who confessed that they killed a young man because he refused to wed the daughter of one and the sister of the other, thereby breaking a solemn promise that he had made. This was, no doubt, maddening, but the provocation was no excuse for the homicidal act or a good moral reason for their acquittal. When brutes walk on two legs the law of the land, as has been well said, does not allow us to butcher them, and the sooner this is realized by those who claim the unwritten law as a defense the sooner shall we have a return to sanity in the treatment of assassins.

No department of government, certainly none represented in the president's cabinet, is less open to partisan political criticism than the department of agriculture. Sometimes there is a hubbub about free seeds, for which congress and not the department is responsible. Beyond that the complaints are few and the blessings are many. Secretary Wilson says that during the fiscal year just ended the department has made discoveries which will benefit the American people to the extent of millions of dollars—a sum too vast to calculate. Some of these discoveries are patentable, and if the patents were held by the discoverers would make them rich. But all such patents, after being taken out in the name of the inventors, are dedicated to the United States for the common good.

Congress having provided for an increase in the artillery force of the army, 27 new companies of coast artillery are to be formed. These will be stationed at various points along the Atlantic, the gulf and the Pacific. Experience has shown that more men were needed to care properly for the big guns in our forts. The additional companies, with the national guard organizations, which have had very successful tours of duty at the forts, will serve to obviate danger in case of an emergency. The country will have both the guns and the men needed.

Electricity continues to extend its usefulness. New Jersey has found it the most expeditious and humane means of putting an end to stray and useless dogs. Hitherto the dogs have been asphyxiated in a big gas tank. But the society which looks after such things finds this is cruel and by no means infallible. So Plainfield leads off by substituting the electric kennel for the gas receptacle. By this means the canines are sent painlessly and swiftly to death and the howlows cease from spreading fear of rabies.

A Methodist minister has protested against the use of the Sunday service as a practice hour for students in shorthand, who go to church merely to take down the sermon. It does seem a double offense to break the Sabbath in church.

The presentation of the cross of the Legion of Honor to the composer of "Salome," the opera which shocked New York, will emphasize an impression that the legion is getting to be a somewhat mixed company.

Washington Gossip

Interesting Bits of News Picked Up Here and There at the National Capital

CAMPAIGN ON TO RAISE PAY OF OUR SOLDIERS

WASHINGTON.—Apply at the recruiting office early and avoid the rush.

A move is on foot to increase the pay of United States soldiers and sailors, which was fixed more than 50 years ago, and it was expected that when the increase is granted there will be a rush of recruits.

It has been generally assumed that Uncle Sam's soldiers were by far the best paid in the world, and that belief has in large part been the cause of the failure of attempts made in the past to secure increases in pay.

But now, in connection with the systematic preparations that are being made to lay the subject of "something wrong in the army" before congress at the next session it has been discovered that this belief is founded in error and that several nations are much more liberal in the treatment of their soldiers than is the United States.

The fact will be brought to the attention of congress in connection with the subject of a general increase in the salaries of both army and navy.



COL. WILLIAM F. TUCKER of the pay department of the army, husband of the daughter of Mrs. John A. Logan, who is now stationed at Chicago, will not be court-martialed on the charges preferred against him by his wife.

This is the opinion of army officers who are familiar with the contents of the report which has been made after a full and careful investigation of the charges. The inspector general of the army has had several of his best inspectors at work on the case, and testimony has been sought upon the Pacific slope and in the Philippines.

The report has been prepared and forwarded to Secretary Taft, who is at Murray Bay enjoying a vacation. It is expected that Secretary Taft will act upon the report before starting for the Philippines.

Army officers who are in a position to know the substance of the report say that the inspectors have not found sufficient evidence to warrant the department in ordering a court-martial. Mrs. Tucker has the civil courts open to her for redress if she desires, and may sue for a divorce without consulting the officials of the war department, but officials say the department goes slowly in all matters affecting the private

INCREASE IN IMPORTS BENEFITS WHOLE WORLD

ALL the world, or at least all the grand divisions of the world, have profited from the large increase in importations during the fiscal year just ended. This gain, as already announced by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor, amounts to over \$200,000,000 compared with the preceding year.

Of this increase about \$115,000,000 is in imports from Europe, \$33,000,000 in imports from Asia, \$25,000,000 in imports from North America, about \$20,000,000 in imports from South America, nearly \$10,000,000 in imports from Africa and about 5,000,000 in imports from Oceania. The United Kingdom, Germany, France, Brazil, Japan, British India, Cuba, Italy, Egypt and China are the chief beneficiaries from foreign purchases by the people of the United States.

The largest increase in imports from one country is from the United Kingdom, showing a growth of about \$37,000,000 over the preceding year. Pig iron alone shows an increase in the 11 months ending with May of nearly \$7,000,000 from the United Kingdom alone, pig tin an increase of \$3,500,000 and cotton cloths, cotton laces, silk, crude India rubber and manufactures of various sorts, as well as many other less important articles, show a considerable growth.

From Germany imports show an advance of about \$26,000,000. This occurs chiefly in beet sugar, chemicals, kid gloves, silks, knit goods and paper manufactures, the largest single increase being in sugar, which alone shows an increase in the 11 months ending with May of nearly \$6,000,000 compared with the immediately preceding year. From France the imports show a gain of about \$21,000,000, chiefly in silks, laces, diamonds, gloves and other manufactured articles.

WITH 30,000 enlisted men in its service, dependent almost wholly on the aid they receive aboard ship, there is not a dentist in the whole naval service. This is the growing that Surgeon General Rixey will make to congress at its session this winter.

Gen. Rixey will urge three important measures, upon which he is now working, and which will later be incorporated in his annual report to be submitted to the secretary of the navy. He will urge in the strongest terms possible that congress pass a law authorizing the reorganization and enlargement of the naval hospital corps, the employment of a sufficient number



A Canadian sergeant, for instance, enters upon his service with a wage of one dollar per day, which increases according to the provisions of the longevity laws to \$1.25.

The American sergeant gets \$18 a month at first, and the expenses are larger than the Canadian non-commissioned officer, because of the considerable difference in the scale of living and the lower tariff rates upon the necessities of life in Canada.

Even Cuba pays her soldiers three times as much as the American private. The Cuban rural guard gets the pay of a New York policeman. Other countries than these two exceed America in the pay allowed their soldiers, and data is being gotten together to make up a strong case to demonstrate to congress that the real reason for the numerous desertions from the American army is not dissatisfaction with the hard work, or dislike for some particular officer, nor even the lack of a simple and well regulated canteen, but the small wage paid to the soldier compared with the compensation in civil life.

NO TRIAL FOR TUCKER ON CHARGES OF WIFE

affairs of army officers, and that the family skeleton is not paraded except upon occasions which cannot be avoided.

Mrs. Logan and Mrs. Tucker are in Washington. When informed that the report of the inspector general had been sent to Secretary Taft they both said they had no advice concerning the status of the case, that they had not been called upon for testimony by the inspectors who were assigned to the case, and that they had no knowledge of the substance of the report.

"It would be highly improper for us to say anything at this time," said Mrs. Logan. "We do not know that the report has been prepared. We must await its publication and know officially of its contents before we can make any statement."

Mrs. Tucker shares the opinion of her mother and will not discuss the case in advance of the publication of the report. Neither she nor Mrs. Logan would at this time give any expression concerning plans for further proceedings in the event the report is, as expected, adverse to the charges made against Col. Tucker. If they contemplate the institution of civil proceedings in the courts that fact will not be discussed until after the report is published.



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NAVY WITHOUT DENTISTS; TEETH OF SAILORS BAD

of dentists to attend to the needs of the enlisted men in the service and the creation of a corps of women nurses. In his last report Gen. Rixey showed, and also when he appeared before the house and senate naval affairs committees, that a very large percentage of the sickness in the navy was directly attributable to the lack of dentists aboard ship and at the various naval stations. He said he considered this one of the most important matters upon which congress could act, as the whole ability of the sailors properly to perform their duties was dependent upon their physical state.

BUILDING UP BUSINESS

AN ORIGINAL PLAN TO TEST NEW ENTERPRISES.

AN INDUSTRY INCUBATOR

Suggestions as to Assisting Small Manufacturers Toward Success and Helping Town Interests.

Regardless of the magnitude of a city or town there must be employment for the people. In fact, population of any city depends upon the opportunity that it may afford the residents gaining a livelihood. The agricultural town receives its support from whatever mercantile traffic it can gain from contiguous territory, and what industries in the manufacturing line that can be advantageously conducted. The city draws support from the smaller towns in an area of country, which, owing to its geographical position and what other advantages it may have, it may command the trade of.

It is to the advantage of every town to have as many manufacturing plants as can be profitably operated. Natural conditions regulate manufacturing to a great extent. Transportation facilities, the cost of raw material and fuel are highly important factors; yet there are certain lines of small manufacturing that can be well carried on in any community if only rightly managed. For many years ambitious towns have followed the practice of offering bonuses to manufacturing concerns in order to secure their location. The bonus system has not always operated satisfactorily. Too often promoters of manufacturing enterprises look to the bonus offered as a means of making profit rather than to the legitimate conduct of the business. Then, again, there are stock-jobbing schemes that operate in connection with the bonus plan, and it has been known that hundreds of thousands of dollars have been lost by people anxious to further the manufacturing interests of their home towns.

Numerous manufacturing centers have been gradually built up through the right kind of co-operation of the citizens. There is one prosperous city in Illinois that owes its activity mainly to the plans pursued by an enterprising class of Swedish citizens, who some 30 years ago organized a Swedish Aid society. This society advanced money to worthy workers who desired to engage in business. Officers of the society supervised the business to a great extent, and small concerns which were established have grown to be factories whose output run well up into the millions annually. This aid society loaned money to be repaid from the profits of the business. The plan was a successful one.

The system here referred to suggests a means whereby each town or city which desires to build up manufacturing interests can do so at the minimum cost; that is, that the dangers and objections offered by the bonus systems are entirely eliminated, as is also the chance for promoters to reap a harvest through the exploitation of unsound enterprises. This plan involves the incorporation of a promoting company. Local capital may be subscribed to whatever extent is deemed expedient. To illustrate: If an organization be formed with \$25,000 capital, \$10,000 of this capital can be employed in the equipment of a building for manufacturing purposes. This building can have facilities for half a dozen to a dozen small manufacturing concerns. The power necessary may be supplied from a general power plant. The machinery for manufacturing can be installed as required. A board of directors shall be selected to oversee the business. Whenever a small enterprise is found to be seeking a location, the directors are empowered to negotiate for its location in the town. The concern may be incorporated and a small amount of stock taken by the holding company. Facilities for manufacturing and marketing whatever the product may be afforded. If the enterprise proves successful it can be moved from the experimental station into a separate building, the holding company investing in its stock, and the dividends on the stock can be placed in the general fund for the extension of other enterprises. Should an enterprise prove to be lacking in merit it can be discarded. In this manner from half a dozen to a dozen different enterprises can be carried on and thoroughly tested as to practical workings. Of course, it must not be expected that all of the undertakings will prove successful, but if good judgment be used in selecting enterprises, a large percentage will prove profitable. Those who subscribe for the stock of the holding company can be compensated by receiving an equitable percentage upon the amount invested in stock.

This plan eliminates the objectionable features of granting bonuses and the subscribing for stock in concerns that are in embryo stage and purely experiments.

No Good to Town.

The man who spends his time loafing about the town stores and complaining of the conditions of his environment is no good to himself, his family or his town. There are a class of men who spend their time in bemoaning the fact that they are not getting the right kind of living which the world owes them, and who never once think how much better this living could be if they would only hustle. The man who is constantly grumbling about the dullness of his town is never found looking around to discover a means by which he can make it livelier.

EQUITY IN BUSINESS.

Practice of Live-and-Let-Live Principle Most Desirable.

Too frequently it is noticed that in the struggle to attain wealth the rights of the individual are ignored. Fair dealing is a desirable thing as well as most simple and it requires only common honesty to practice it. Not alone is there honesty involved in the matter of selling but also in the matter of buying. It is quite as dishonorable for the purchaser to exact that the seller receive no profit on an article sold as it is for the seller to demand an exorbitant price for his goods.

There is much sound philosophy in the live-and-let-live gospel. This is nothing more than an observance of the Golden Rule that has found expression in all ages of enlightenment from the time of Gautama down to the present. In every day dealings it is apparent that there is too much of exaggerated selfishness in evidence, too great a struggle for the vantage. There should be a spirit of Christian cooperation that would be just to all alike. Whole communities suffer sometimes from the lack of this sense of equity on the part of merchants and their customers.

How often is the complaint heard in rural districts that the storekeepers of a town charge too high prices for what they have to sell? How often is it noticed that where this feeling dominates the people that the home town suffers as a consequence? It is short sightedness on parts of merchants to require of their customers more than what may be considered a legitimate and just profit. In fact, it is poor business policy to follow out a plan of this kind. There are many towns whose growth has been prevented through a grasping tendency of the merchants to make all they possibly can in a few short years, and to give the people as small an amount of goods as they will take for their money. The natural result of a policy of this kind is that the people seek other towns in which to do their trading and quite often buy from the distant mail-order house.

Habits once formed are hard to break. It is quite as difficult for the merchant to recover from the habit of making exorbitant profits as it is for the patron of the mail-order house to turn his trade to the home stores. Should both the merchants and their customers calmly consider principles that enter into commerce, and both determine to practice equity in their dealings, the merchant to sell honest goods at honest profits and the customer to give patronage to merchants who would practice this principle, it would be wholesome not alone for the home towns, but for all the communities.

TOWN HELPS.

It is easy to estimate the business importance of a place by the appearance of its stores. Dingy, dirty appearing business places always give a bad impression and are generally indicative of the character of the business men of the town.

Good newspapers are important factors in building up towns. Well filled advertising pages, as well as local news pages speak for the prosperity of a place and makes an impression upon the readers that assist the town to greater prosperity.

Each town should have a good public hall, a place where meetings can be held or entertainments given. If such a hall be erected by private enterprise if rightly managed can be made a profitable investment in the average small town.

Quite often when towns are organized the matter of providing for public parks is overlooked. Every town is a city in embryo. No one can prophesy how great it may become in time. It is well to look into the future and to set aside grounds that may be used for park purposes. It has been the experiments of many cities that the park question is a troublesome one when not looked after in ample time. There is nothing that makes the city more attractive or is such a blessing to its people as a cozy park where they may meet for recreation during the warmer months of the year.

PUBLIC OPINION.

Power of the Country Press and Its Influences Upon the Community.

While the influences of the great city papers are recognized and the great magazines fill a necessary field, neither of these conveyers of general information can ever supplant the field that is occupied by the country press. The home paper is the medium that conveys local intelligence to its readers. It fills a place in the journalistic world that no other publication can ever supplant. The country press is one of the greatest powers in the molding of public opinion. It may not be up to the highest classical standard, but its rough literary gems are continually shining resplendent and cast their rays in the most remote corners of the land. It is a power for good. In its reflections of events, in the local field are shown the progress of the people whom it represents. It is the mirror of the condition of the town and the country. The residents of every community should take the greatest pride in assisting in making the home press more powerful. Stand up for your home paper. It is the one staunch advocate of your local interests and to an extent is indicative of either your prosperity or your lack of progress.

The Two Reports of the Spies

Sunday School Lesson for Sept. 1, 1907
Specially Prepared for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—Numbers 13:17-20, 22-23. Memory verses 20, 31.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"The Lord is with us; fear them not."—Num. 14:9.

TIME.—July or August, "The Time of the first ripe grapes" (Num. 13:20); R. C. 1499 by the common chronology. This was two or three months after they left Sinai on the 20th day of the second month, sometime in May.

PLACE.—Kadesh-barnea. An 11-days journey (Deut. 1:2) of continued travel, as modern travelers have found (Robinson was exactly 11 days); i. e., 160 or 170 miles route from Sinai. It is 50 miles south of Beersheba on the southern border of Palestine.

Comment and Suggestive Thought. For two or three months the people of Israel, men, women, and children, slowly marched through "the great and terrible wilderness" from Sinai, a journey which ordinary travelers could make in eleven days. The slow march and long rests were necessary both on account of the children and the flocks, and on account of the need of longer training. Moreover, the difficulties and privations of the desert would make them more anxious to enter the "land flowing with milk and honey."

Kadesh-barnea. At length, some time in July or August, they reached Kadesh-barnea, Ain Qadees, 50 miles south of Beersheba, just at the foot of the range of hills which are the southern boundary of Palestine.

"From Kadesh the people can see, rising before them toward the north-west, the steep ascent which leads into the hill country, the destined inheritance of the tribe of Judah."

The gates to their new home were before them, wide open. The fertile oasis to which they had come was a foretaste of their inheritance. Only a steep climb and they can set their feet on the land of promise.

Then Moses said unto them: "Behold, Jehovah thy God hath set the land before thee; go up, take possession, as Jehovah, the God of thy fathers, hath spoken unto thee; fear not, neither be dismayed."—(Deut. 1:21.)

They had only to trust God and go forward, and in less than two years from leaving Egypt the land would have been theirs. The God who had delivered them with a mighty hand, who had made a path through the sea, who had rained manna, and brought water from a rock, and spoken from Sinai, and entered into covenant with them, and was leading them by his visible presence,—he bade them go up and take possession of the promised land.

The people were afraid to go forward. They were not a warlike people. Abraham's attack on Chedorlomer and his army in rescue of Lot, in the far distant past, and their battle with the Amalekites, a year before this time, are the only battles recorded in the whole history of their race. The whole people (Deut. 1:22) asked Moses to first send out spies to investigate. This was wise under the circumstances, that is, the next wisest thing to going forward trusting in God, and therefore Moses agreed to the plan (Deut. 1:23), and it was so directed by God (Num. 13:1, 2).

The Committee of Investigation.—Accordingly, Moses selected twelve leading men best fitted for the service, whose names are given in vs. 4-15.

"Spy Out the Land."—The object of this expedition was (1) to learn what were the attractions of the country; (2) the difficulties in the way of taking possession; (3) the best ways of reaching the country; (4) the preparations it was necessary to make. "Get you up this way southward." Better as in R. V., by the south, not referring at all to the direction from the Israelite camp, but to a well-defined tract of territory forming the southernmost and least fertile portion of the land of Canaan. It was called "The Negeb" or the South Country, literally, "the dryness." In the same way we speak of "the South," no matter in what direction we approach it.

The Two Reports.—The timid spies were like Elisha's servant (2 Kings 6:16, 17), who saw the enemy, but did not see the heavenly chariots and horsemen ranged on the hills round about. They saw the giants, but were blind to God.

The report was evil because it omitted the essential factor in the case.

The minority report of Caleb and Joshua was a good report because, while it accepted all the material facts of the other, it embodied the one essential of faith in God with its outcome of obedience and courage.

The difference between the two lay in this: that the ten looked at God through the difficulties, as when you look at the sun through a reversed telescope, and it seems indefinitely distant and shorn of its glory; while the two looked at difficulties through God.—F. B. Meyer.

Practical Points.

God summons us to go up now, immediately, and possess the land, eternal life began in this world and in our youth.

It is right that we should know the difficulties and dangers and self-denials, as well as the good things in the land to which we are called.

Every real good, like success, education, usefulness, has great difficulties and many enemies in the way.

Those make an evil report who see the enemies more clearly than the goodness of the land, and than the power and love of God.